

*When Tomorrow Starts Without Me*

When tomorrow starts without me  
And I'm not here to see  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes  
All filled with tears for me  
I wish you wouldn't cry  
The Way you did today  
While thinking of the many things  
We did not get to say  
I know how much you love me  
As much as I love you  
Each time that you think of me  
I know you will miss me too  
When tomorrow starts with out me  
Please try to understand  
That an angel came and called my name  
And took me by the hand  
The angel said my place was ready  
In heaven far above  
And That I would have to leave behind  
All those I Dearly Love  
But When I walked through Heaven's Gates  
I felt so much at home  
When GOD looked down and smiled at me  
From his golden throne  
He said This Is Eternity  
And All I promised you  
Today for life on earth is done  
But Here it starts a new  
I promise no tomorrow  
For today will always last  
And Since each day's the exact same way  
There is no longing for the past  
So When Tomorrow starts without me  
Do not think we're apart  
For every time you think of me  
Remember I'm right here in your heart

*Please join the family for cookies and ice cream in the fellowship room following the burial.*

*The family of Lavonne Brekke thanks you for your presence here today, for your thoughts, prayers & other acts of kindness shown to them. A special thank you goes out to the Prairie Lakes Hospice for their tender care and compassion.*

**Furness**  
FUNERAL HOME  
Clark, SD - (605) 532-5772



*In Memory Of*

**Lavonne June Brekke**

March 23, 1927 - August 22, 2024





**In Memory Of**  
*Lavonne June Brekke*

**Services**

Furness Funeral Home, Clark, South Dakota  
Tuesday, August 27, 2024, 1:30 PM

**Officiating**

Pastor Jody Peterson

**Special Recorded Music**

"On Eagles Wings" - Josh Groban  
"Safe in the Arms of Jesus" - George Beverly Shea  
"You are my Sunshine" - Christina Perri

**Casket Bearers**

|                   |                  |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Joel Brekke       | Ryan Brekke      | Scott Brekke     |
| Heather Brekke    | Jason Williamson | Rusty Williamson |
| Justin Williamson | Bryn Hart        | Brielle Rathe    |

**Honorary Casket Bearers**

The Staff of Avantara-Clark

**Final Resting Place**

Rose Hill Cemetery  
Clark, South Dakota



Lavonne Brekke, age 97, of Clark, died Thursday, August 22, 2024, at Clark City Avantara with family by her side.

Lavonne June Brekke was born to Emmet and Clara (Peterson) Warkenthien on March 23, 1927, on a farm west of Willow Lake, SD. She attended grade school in the Peterson school and graduated from Willow Lake High School in 1945. She attended General Beadle College in Madison, SD, and taught country school for three years. Lavonne worked throughout her life in their businesses. She later took a bookkeeping job with Taecker Plumbing and Heating in Watertown for 17 years until retirement.

Lavonne was baptized and confirmed at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Willow Lake.

In 1948, she married James (Jim) Brekke and they lived on a farm west of Willow Lake. Jim passed away September 7, 1992. To them, three children were born, Bruce, Jolene, and Jill. Jim and Lavonne owned/operated Brekke Hardware from 1957-1971. They sold the business and

moved to Clark where Jim was Clark County Sherriff. They also owned and operated Brekke Chevrolet and Pontiac in Clark until 1985. Jim served the City of Clark as Police Chief until his death.

During the years of Brekke Chevrolet and Pontiac, Jim and Lavonne were honored to win two overseas trips. Lavonne spoke often of their trips through Greece and Germany. Her children cherish Christmas ornaments and many toy gifts she carried back from Germany.

Lavonne treasured the family gatherings each fall when Jim organized and hosted large pheasant hunts. These hunts continued for years both on the farm near Willow Lake and after their move to Clark. While Lavonne worked at Brekke Hardware, she sold many hunting licenses to excited hunters. It was the atmosphere of the season that she loved. These fall gatherings started with siblings and in-laws and grew over the years to include grandchildren and friends of friends. The more the merrier! Stories were shared, laughter was loud and memories were made as family and friends came from near and far to share this festive time. Of course, Lavonne's potato salad, fresh caramel rolls and tender fried pheasant were the highlight of the evening meal shared together. She went to bed exhausted each evening already planning the next day's meals.

Lavonne's family was the joy of her life and all were very special to her. She enjoyed music, baking, gardening, stitchery and making quilts. Her special recipes were assembled into a book entitled "Grandma's Cookbook" for her 80th birthday and are a treasure to every family member. And, though her potato salad is among those recipes, none can make it taste quite the way she made it. She always had cookies ready for visitors. Her grandchildren and young neighbor children often called her the "Cookie Grandma."

She is preceded in death by her parents, an infant sister, her husband, Jim, brothers, Robert Warkenthien and Gene (Delores) Warkenthien, sisters, Shirley (Vernon) Stroschein, Nola (Allen) Tellinghuisen, and Loris (Harry Dean) Kannegieter, and son-in-law, Ron Rathe.

Lavonne is survived by her children, Bruce (Peggy) Brekke of Clark and their family, Joel (Wendy) Brekke and children, Hunter (Karli) and Mason Brekke of Fargo, ND, Ryan (Mandy) Brekke and children, Adam (Alistacia) Olson, Mickelle (Chris) Stokke, Bryce Ahlers, and Bailey (Cierra) Johnson of Sioux Falls, SD, Scott (Erin) Brekke and children, Drew (Lindsea), Ben (Jayla), and Alex of Sloan, IA, and Heather (John Zajac) Brekke of Chandler, AZ; Jolene (Wayne) Williamson of Yankton and their family, Jason (Irma) Williamson and children, Maximo and Lucas of Jasper, MN, Rusty (Michelle) Williamson and children, James, Parker and Ethan of Chesapeake, VA, and Justin (Amber) Williamson and children, Miles and Reese of Mound, MN; and Jill Rathe of Watertown and her children, Bryn (Chris) Hart of Madison, and Brielle Rathe of Watertown; eight great-great grandchildren, sister Gaylen (Larry) Grensberg of Willow Lake, sisters-in-law, Marge Brekke of Sioux Falls, and Bobette Warkenthien of Willow Lake, and several nieces, nephews and friends.